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Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUXEMB 00429 092105Z

62
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OES-03 SAJ-01 PM-03 H-02

L-03 NSC-05 SS-15 EB-07 /071 W
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R 091525Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4452
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, UR, LU
SUBJ: USSR-LUXEMBOURG ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL AGREEMENTS

REF: LUXEMBOURG 0402 (NOTAL)

1. LUXEMBOURG PRESS REPORTS THAT USSR-LUXEMBOURG ECONOMIC, CULTURAL, AND SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED IN MOSCOW ON JUNE 5-6 DURING THE FIRST DAYS OF THE GRAND DUKE'S STATE VISIT TO USSR.

2. THE CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL AGREEMENTS APPEAR TO BE WINDOW DRESSING AND INCLUDE LITTLE MORE EXCHANGE IN THESE ARENAS THAN ALREADY EXIST. THEY INCLUDE AN EXCHANGE OF SPEAKERS, EDUCATION SPECIALISTS (DELEGATIONS OF THREE FOR A TWO-WEEK PERIOD), STUDENTS (LANGUAGE SPECIALISTS FOR SUMMER COURSES IN THE USSR), JOURNALS AND BOOKS, FILMS, AND ART CONFERENCES.

3. THE ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENTS ARE OF MORE SUBSTANCE AND IMPORTANCE TO BOTH COUNTRIES. AS DETAILED REFTEL, AN AIR AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED ALLOWING ONCE WEEKLY
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PAGE 02 LUXEMB 00429 092105Z

FLIGHTS BY AEROFLOT INTO LUXEMBOURG. IN THE STEEL SEC-

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

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TOR, THE SOVIETS AGREED TO PURCHASE 400,000 TONS OF STEEL PRODUCTS ANNUALLY FROM ARBED, THE LUXEMBOURG STEEL GIANT. THIS FIGURE REPRESENTS APPROXIMATELY SIX PERCENT OF ARBED'S 1974 RECORD PRODUCTION AND MARKS A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OVER THE TWO TO THREE PERCENT SHARE OF PRODUCTION SOLD TO THE SOVIETS DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS. THE ANNUAL TOTAL WILL INCLUDE 200,000 TONS OF STEEL SHEETS PRODUCED BY THE ARBED BELGIAN SUBSIDIARY SIDMAR FOR AUTO PRODUCTION, 100,000 TONS OF BEAMS AND 100,000 TONS OF UNSPECIFIED STEEL PRODUCTS.

4. THE TWO SIDES ALSO AGREED TO EXCHANGE SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION, PRIMARILY IN THE STEEL SECTOR. ARBED WILL INSTRUCT THE SOVIETS ON ITS LD-AC STEEL CONVERTER PROCESS, A PROCESS MODIFIED FROM AUSTRIAN TECHNOLOGY FOR USE WITH PIG IRON OF HIGH PHOSOPHOROUS CONTENT. IN RETURN, THE SOVIETS WILL ADVISE ARBED ON THEIR HIGH FURNACE TECHNOLOGY.
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